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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 25, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 19 totaled an estimated 15.4 billion ton-miles, 4.9 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 7 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 104.7 billion ton-miles, 3.1 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 19 totaled 353,966 cars, 8.9 percent below 1982, but 1.1 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 17.8 percent in the East, 8.1 percent in the South and 3.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of lumber and wood products registered a 29.9 percent gain and motor vehicles and equipment loadings were up 12.1 percent. Twelve of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended February 12 totaled 47,286 cars, up 25.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1982 and 81,080 trailers and/or containers, 21.2 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first six weeks of the year was 243,934 cars, 18.2 percent higher than last year, and 412,451 trailers and/or containers, up 12.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/19/83:

	Loadings in Week ended February 19, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	28,382	I	521	1.8	I	508	1.8
Other farm products	2,994	D	1,467	32.9	D	543	15.4
Metallic ores	10,732	D	9,132	46.0	I	604	6.0
Coal	100,018	D	19,587	16.4	I	4,130	4.3
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,066	D	1,246	15.0	I	4	0.1
Nonmetallic minerals	10,943	D	495	4.3	I	657	6.4
Grain mill products	12,368	D	1,105	8.2	I	267	2.2
Food and kindred products	13,481	D	653	4.6	I	90	0.7
Primary forest products	14,703	D	2,034	12.2	I	1,271	9.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,173	I	1,653	29.9	I	218	3.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,284	D	2,190	12.5	D	166	1.1
Chemicals and allied products	23,362	D	44	0.2	D	155	0.7
Petroleum products	4,310	D	833	16.2	D	122	2.8
Stone, clay and glass products	8,596	D	1,068	11.1	D	31	0.4
Coke	4,634	D	384	7.7	I	213	4.8
Metals and products	8,205	D	2,379	22.5	D	967	10.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,258	I	1,756	12.1	I	610	3.9
Waste and scrap materials	7,642	D	1,638	17.7	I	2	0.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,427	I	131	1.4	D	129	1.3
All other carloads	48,220	I	6,707	16.2	D	2,491	4.9
LCL traffic	168	D	1,290	88.5	D	45	21.1
Total Cars Loaded	353,966	D	34,777	8.9	I	3,925	1.1
Corresponding week of 1982	388,743						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (7 weeks)	2,385,481	2,569,472	D 7.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
6 Weeks ended February 12	89.3	91.8	D 2.7
Week ended February 19	15.4	16.2	D 4 9
7 weeks cumulative	104.7	108.0	D 3.1

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